

April 8, 2013

The Sopchoppy City Council held the regular April meeting. In attendance were: Mayor Colleen Mitchell, Council members: Lara Edwards, Martha Evans and Anginita Rosier. Also in attendance: City Clerk/Administrator, Jackie Lawhon; Deputy Clerk, Linda Langston; Public Works Director, Leonard Tartt and City Attorney, Dan Cox.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mitchell and led in a salute to the flag and prayer.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Lara Edwards, seconded by Anginita Rosier, passed 4/0.

Murray McLaughlin and Betty Green representing the Wakulla County Historical Society spoke to the Council regarding the Heritage Village. They have obtained 40 acres on Zion Hill Road and have had a plan drawn up for the village. Mr. McLaughlin indicated that they were looking at a 5+ year timeline for moving homes and completing the village according to the condition and circumstances of the home. He indicated that the Historical Society would be seeking letters of support from time to time as grant's become available. Betty Green mentioned to the Council that years ago she paid \$1,400 personal money to keep the Whaley log cabin from being torn down. The City Council allowed the cabin to be placed in the City Park. Mrs. Green has asked the council in the past to reimburse the money and asked again that the council consider this so the money could be used to move other homes. No action was taken.

Chris Cayer presented the audit for the year ending Sept. 30, 2012. He reviewed the audit with the council and the motion was made by Lara Edwards to accept the audit as presented, the motion was seconded by Anginita Rosier and passed 4/0 by the council.

The Council opened the bids for the advertised surplus property.

1983 Chevrolet – no bids

2002 F- 250 :

James Burge 2,678.50

Josh Langston – 2,528.98

2001 Chevrolet Silverado:

James Burge – 1,628.50

Wakulla Sherriff's Dept – 1,500

1990 F-600: no bid

Ditchwitch Trencher: Randy Kelly \$1,225

Lara Edwards made the motion to accept the highest bid on each surplus item, the motion was seconded by Martha Evans and passed 4/0 by the council. The Council directed the clerk to contact midway machinery regarding auctioning the items that did not receive a bid.

Clerk Reports:

Downtown Beasley Park – 2 large dead trees had to be removed at a cost of \$1,400 and the undercutting to clean and identify the land cost \$800.

DEO performed an exit audit for the Storm Water Project and currently there is one finding concerning Allen's Excavating payroll including some fringe benefits that are no longer approved by DEO. Once this

is cleared up the finding will go away. Also, there was one concern with the Hanifin suit. After the suit is settled the City will need to go through the eminent domain process set by DEO guidelines.

City Park – The old church has been repainted.

Dan Cox reported that the county is working on the transfer of easement for the lift station located at the DOT work yard. The County Commission approved the easement request and it has been forwarded to the State.

The Commission discussed a request for sewer customer information from the county that would require extensive work by the city. The Council requested that the Clerk speak to the County Administrator regarding this request and work out a price or compromise.

Per Florida Statutes, Dan Cox requested that the city meet in executive session for the purpose of discussing two legal law suits which the City of Sopchoppy is a party to. Attending the meeting will be the members of the City Council, the City Administrator and the City Attorney along with a court reporter. The meeting is set for April 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

Council Items:

Lara Edwards reported that the FSU Marine Lab will be holding an open house on April 20<sup>th</sup>. She also stated that she is going to request permission for the City to advertise their meetings on the sign located on Rose Street owned by George E. Strickland.

Anginita Rosier reported that she has the pictures of the council members and the name plates are ready for pick-up.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m